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12 February 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Review Committee

SUBJECT : Project for an International Study Group on Freedom and Democracy

I. The Problem

To explore for a period of one year through small regional discussion groups the possibility of:

- a. achieving a fresh, modern, and convincing statement of the principles of Freedom and Democracy;
- b. countering the damage which the Communists have done through their fraudulent appropriation of these concepts;
- c. determining the areas of actual or potential consensus between the advanced and the backward or emerging nations with regard to both principles and practical programs of political, economic and social democracy.

II. Discussion

25X1A9a This project grows out of nearly a year of preliminary exploration conducted by [redacted] former Chief, Senior Research Staff on International Communism, DD/I, of a proposal made to Mr. Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Special Assistant to the President, at the Fifth International Convegno of Il Mulino Research Group (Bologna, Italy, 22 April 1961). This proposal was that there should be organized a "large conference in the U. S. in which the democratic movements and parties of the whole world should take part, where the very principles on which the policy of the western world must draw its inspiration would be debated and which might determine the doctrine of the relationship of the West and the Third World."

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Subsequent to this meeting, [redacted] and Mr. Schlesinger agreed that this proposal deserved careful consideration. At the same time, it was concluded that the actual organization of such a conference would require extensive preliminary work to determine the principles on which it should be based. As a first step to this

25X1A9a and, [redacted] working with Mr. Fabio Cavazza of Il Mulino, organized a small exploratory meeting in Paris, 11-15 December 1961, in which two Americans and nine Europeans took part. This meeting led to the conclusion that major organizational steps would indeed be premature, but that a continuation of informal discussion among small mixed groups,

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drawn from the emerging intellectual, professional and official elites of other regions would be useful. Their aim would be to deepen our understanding of the modern forms and problems of free democratic societies and to strengthen their capabilities for resisting the effort of the Communists to appropriate, and at the same time, compromise Free World values.

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It is the purpose of this project to permit [redacted] to continue the exploratory work begun at the Paris meeting. To this end, he would conduct further research and attempt to organize four similar meetings in Latin America, Africa, the Near East and Asia.

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[redacted]

In developing the regional meetings, [redacted] would enlist 25X1A9a the cooperation, voluntary or paid on a consultant basis, of American advisers and local representatives for each region. No organization would be established. Terms of reference for each meeting would include general themes common to the whole of the Free World and problems specific to each region. The results of each meeting would be the subject of detailed reports leading, at the end of the year, to a general synthesis. Publicity would be avoided.

III. Funding

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The sum of [redacted] is requested for this project, falling into 25X1A9a two categories: (1) establishment of [redacted] 25X1A1a [redacted] with secretarial and research assistance [redacted] (2) 25X1A1a provision for the holding of the proposed regional conferences [redacted] The breakdown of these two categories is presented in the Attachment.

IV. Duration

The project would last one year from the date of approval.

V. Coordination

DDS for administrative aspects.

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DDP for access by [redacted] to IO Division, area desks and field stations for the purpose of planning and carrying out the regional meetings. Most of the interested Divisions and Staffs of DDP have already been canvassed, and have indicated approval of the project and 25X1A9a willingness to cooperate with [redacted] will be the central point for coordination.

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25X1C4b Special Problems

25X1A9a Security. No special problems are anticipated, insofar as [REDACTED] is concerned. The names of other persons associated with the project will be submitted to the Office of Security, and clearance requested for those who are witting of Agency involvement. In view of the unclassified nature of the project, clearances will not be required for unwitting persons.

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e. Requirements in the Agency. [REDACTED] will require continuance of his Agency clearance and his Building badge. [REDACTED] will require research facilities in the Library, and a desk in the DDI area where he can work on classified materials, as background to his overt research [REDACTED] He will not require internal secretarial support.

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f. Future Plan 25X1A9a [REDACTED] Depending on the outcome of this year's exploration, [REDACTED] will decide whether to resign from the Agency or to ask for reassignment within it.

VII. Results Expected

It is expected that the series of regional meetings will make it possible to determine whether the proposal of Il Mulino warrants further development. It should be possible to ascertain whether substantial new insights into the problems of freedom and democracy

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can be gained through such an approach. In addition, these meetings should provide valuable intelligence on personalities, organizations and forces at work in the Free World which could be channeled into effective action.

VIII. Action Recommended

25X1A1a That the sum of [REDACTED] be authorized for this project. The Office of DD/I will make the funds available. [REDACTED]

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ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

15 FEB 1962

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